

1-1 By: Patrick S.B. No. 300  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 17, 2008; February 11, 2009,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Education;  
1-4 March 16, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; March 16, 2009,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 300 By: Williams

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to eliminating or modifying certain mandates on school  
1-11 districts.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 25.112, Education Code, is amended by  
1-14 amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsections (e), (f), and (g) to  
1-15 read as follows:

1-16 (d) On application of a school district, the commissioner  
1-17 may except the district from the limit in Subsection (a) if the  
1-18 commissioner finds the limit works an undue hardship on the  
1-19 district. An exception expires at the end of the school year  
1-20 ~~[semester]~~ for which it is granted~~[, and the commissioner may not~~  
1-21 ~~grant an exception for:~~

1-22 ~~[(1) more than one semester at a time].~~

1-23 (e) A school district seeking an exception under Subsection  
1-24 (d) shall notify the commissioner and apply for the exception not  
1-25 later than the later of:

1-26 (1) October 1; or

1-27 (2) the 30th day after the first school day the  
1-28 district exceeds the limit in Subsection (a).

1-29 (f) If a school district repeatedly fails to comply with  
1-30 this section, the commissioner may take any appropriate action  
1-31 authorized to be taken by the commissioner under Section 39.131.

1-32 (g) Not later than January 1, 2011, the agency shall report  
1-33 to the legislature the number of applications for exceptions under  
1-34 Subsection (d) submitted by each school district and for each  
1-35 application indicate whether the application was granted or denied.  
1-36 This subsection expires February 1, 2011.

1-37 SECTION 2. Subsection (b), Section 34.0021, Education Code,  
1-38 is amended to read as follows:

1-39 (b) A school district shall conduct the school bus emergency  
1-40 evacuation training at least once ~~[twice]~~ each school year. The  
1-41 training may be conducted by video~~[, with one training session~~  
1-42 ~~occurring in the fall and one training session occurring in the~~  
1-43 ~~spring. A portion of the training session must occur on a school~~  
1-44 ~~bus and the training session must last for at least one hour].~~

1-45 SECTION 3. Section 44.902, Education Code, is amended to  
1-46 read as follows:

1-47 Sec. 44.902. LONG-RANGE ENERGY PLAN ~~[GOAL]~~ TO REDUCE  
1-48 CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRIC ENERGY. The board of trustees of a school  
1-49 district shall establish a long-range energy plan ~~[goal]~~ to reduce  
1-50 the ~~[school]~~ district's annual electric consumption by five percent  
1-51 beginning with the 2008 ~~[each]~~ state fiscal year and consume  
1-52 electricity in subsequent fiscal years in accordance with the  
1-53 district's energy plan ~~[for six years beginning September 1, 2007].~~

1-54 SECTION 4. Subsection (b), Section 44.903, Education Code,  
1-55 is amended to read as follows:

1-56 (b) A school district is encouraged to ~~[shall]~~ purchase for  
1-57 use in each type of light fixture in an instructional facility the  
1-58 commercially available model of light bulb that:

1-59 (1) uses the fewest watts for the necessary luminous  
1-60 flux or light output;

1-61 (2) is compatible with the light fixture; and

1-62 (3) is the most cost-effective, considering the  
1-63 factors described by Subdivisions (1) and (2).

2-1 SECTION 5. Subsection (b), Section 44.901, Education Code,  
2-2 is repealed.

2-3 SECTION 6. This Act applies beginning with the 2009-2010  
2-4 school year.

2-5 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-9 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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